# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS MODELING TASK FORCE

January 26, 2011

#### **MINUTES**

## THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE MODELING TASK FORCE.

The Modeling Task Force held its meeting at SCAG's Main Office in Los Angeles on January 26, 2011.

#### **Members Present:**

Robert Farley Metro

Firooz Hamedani

Gus Jimenez

Paul Burke

Fiaz Mir

SANBAG

Mehui Champaneri

Caltrans – Dist. 12

Fehr & Peers

Metro

SANBAG

Iteris

Tony Van Haagen Caltrans
Pritam Deshmukh LSA Ass

Pritam Deshmukh

Jack Tsao

Rajeev Seetharam

LSA Associates
City of Los Angeles
KOA Corporation

Steve Smith (via teleconference)

SANBAG

Maria Aranguiz (via teleconference)

Caltrans

John Kerenyi City of Moreno Valley

#### **SCAG** staff present:

Mike Ainsworth
Sungsu Yoon
Yongping Zhang
Hsi-Hwa Hu
Guoxiong Huang
Mana Sangkapichai
Sungbin Cho

Sreedhar Nambisan (via videoconference) Cheryl Leising (via videoconference)

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#### 1.0 CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Robert Farley, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM and introductions were made.

#### 2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

#### 3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

#### 3.1 Approval Items

The September 22, 2010 Meeting Minutes were approved.

#### 4.0 <u>INFORMATION ITEMS</u>

#### 4.1 **Year 2010 Census**

Frank Wen, SCAG's Manager of Information Services, provided an overview of the recently released Year 2010 Census and the relationship with the California Department of Finance's (DOF) forecast. The population for the SCAG Region from the Year 2010 Census is less than the DOF forecast. The Census has a more accurate estimate of domestic and international migration, resulting in a downward adjustment of population to reflect accurate migration trends.

It was reported that the data set for model validation purpose is going to be delivered by the end of this month; a previous version was delivered on December 15, 2010.

#### 4.2 SCAG's Land Use Model

Sungbin Cho gave a status report on SCAG's PECAS Land Use Model Development project. The PECAS Land Use Model is a multi-year project. Most of the model design and knowledge transfer have been completed. Currently SCAG is working with the Consultant on model calibration and scenario testing, which is a 1-year project.

The various scenarios being tested include: the baseline condition, changes in gas price, VMT fees, and TOD. A general observation from the scenario testing is that the Model responds in the appropriate direction, however the magnitude of the model response will require additional calibration. When completed, the integration of PECAS and the travel model will be a valuable policy analysis tool for SCAG.

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The Version 1 Model and documentation will be delivered by the end of March 2011, with a peer review scheduled for June 2011. Next year's model improvement activities include: 1) Review of the model design and comparison with the Statewide Land Use Model, 2) Integration with SCAG's Transportation Model, 3) Continued model calibration, 4) Model validation, 5) Additional scenario testing, and 6) Outreach.

For further information or to view the presentation, the PowerPoint presentation is available at: <a href="http://www.scag.ca.gov/modeling/mtf/index.htm">http://www.scag.ca.gov/modeling/mtf/index.htm</a>

#### 4.3 City of Moreno Valley Model Development

Mr. John Kerenyi gave an overview of the new Moreno Valley Model, based on TRANSIMS. The Moreno Valley Model will be used by the City to analyze large-scale land-use changes within the City. Mr. Kerenyi gave an overview of the modeling methodology, as well as a summary of the validation process and results. In this project, all model inputs were based on RivTAM Model data.

TRANSIMS seeks to incorporate additional detail into the traffic forecasting process by tracking the movement of individual vehicles and by use of intersection controls (i.e., traffic signal operation, gap acceptance at unsignalized locations). TRANSIMS is an activity-based modeling approach. The travel information TRANSIMS currently operates on is typically imported from a four-step model (in this case, RIVTAM, which is based on the current SCAG Model).

Potential future applications of the Moreno Valley Model include:link addition/deletion/changes, freeway bottleneck forecasting, operational enhancements (i.e. ramp metering, intersection controls, lane augmentation, signal operation improvements) tolling, and any application requiring refined time-of-day forecasts. The Moreno Valley Model Development project was completed successfully.

The PowerPoint presentation is available at http://www.scag.ca.gov/modeling/mtf/index.htm

#### 4.4 Year 2010 California Household Travel Survey (CHTS)

Mike Ainsworth from SCAG gave an update on Caltrans', MPOs', and SCAG's combined effort to conduct the Year 2010 California Household Travel Survey (CHTS). The goal of the CHTS is to conduct an activity-based travel survey that will support the development of next-generation models, support the development of the Statewide Travel Model, and will support SB375 & SB391 implementation.

Working with NuStats as the consultant, the CHTS Steering Committee is in the process of finalizing the survey questions. There will be 60,000 samples sent out randomly as well as an add-on survey that will gather additional travel characteristics needed for the development of

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SCAG's Activity-Based model. Mr. Ainsworth discussed the distribution of the surveys and how the numbers will vary based primarily on the size of the county.

There is an additional Survey Augment Contract that is being released by SCAG. An RFP is expected 2/1/11, with work commencing on 4/01/11. Also presented was the CHTS schedule with the various survey elements by fiscal year.

The PowerPoint presentation is available at http://www.scag.ca.gov/modeling/mtf/index.htm

#### 5.0 CHAIR'S REPORT

There was no Chair's Report.

#### 6.0 STAFF REPORT/INFORMATION SHARING

There was no Staff Report.

#### 7.0 <u>FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS</u>

#### 8.0 <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45am. The next meeting of the Modeling Task Force will be held on March 23, 2010 at the SCAG offices in downtown Los Angeles at 9:30am.